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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 HA-05 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08
INR-10 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 OMB-01 DODE-00 PM-05
H-01 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11 /098 W
----------078135 221457Z /46
R 221239Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9671
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

C O N F I D E N T I A L BUCHAREST 3462

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS ALSO FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, FR, RO
SUBJECT: THE CASE OF VASILE PARASCHIV, ROMANIAN...

REF: PARIS 15850

1. WE WERE SURPRISED AT TIME TO READ OF VASILE PARASCHIV'S PARTICIPATION IN APRIL 18 PRESS CONFERENCE IN CAPACITY OF
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DISSIDENT ROMANIAN UNIONIST, AND OF HIS ANNOUNCED INTENTION TO RETURN TO ROMANIA TO CARRY ON STRUGGLE FOR LABOR RIGHTS. PARASCHIV'S STATEMENT, IN CONTEXT OF LE MONDE REPORT, GAVE IMPRESSION THAT THERE IS IN ROMANIA SOME FORM OF ACTIVE AGITATION, SOME NUCLEUS OF STOUT-HEARTED INDIVIDUALS CAMPAIGNING FOR INDEPENDENT UNIONS TRULY REPRESENTATIVE OF THE WORKERS, AFTER FASHION OF THE SMALL BAND OF ACTIVISTS IN

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USSR. TO THE BEST OF OUR KNOWLEDGE, THERE IS NO SUCH GROUP OR ACTIVITY EXTANT IN ROMANIA, EITHER ASSOCIATED WITH OR DISTINCT FROM MR. PARASCHIV.

2. PARASCHIV IS KNOWN TO EMBASSY, AT WHICH HE HAS CALLED ON SEVERAL OCCASIONS. HE WAS ONE OF SIGNERS OF GOMA'S OPEN LETTER TO BELGRADE PREPARATORY MEETING. HIS WAS ONE OF CASES DETAILED BY ROMANIAN PSYCHIATRIST DR. ION VIANU (BELIEVED NOW TO BE IN SWITZERLAND) IN DOSSIER HE PROVIDED LAST YEAR TO COMMITTEE OF FRENCH PSYCHIATRISTS OPPOSED TO THE USE OF PSYCHIATRY FOR POLITICAL PURPOSES. HE SEVERAL TIMES APPEARED AT THE CONSULAR SECTION, MOST RECENTLY ON OCTOBER 17, 1977 TO INQUIRE ABOUT AN ALLEGED RELATIVE IN U.S., WHOSE ADDRESS HE DID NOT KNOW.

3. PARASCHIV HAS SPOKEN SEVERAL TIMES WITH EMBASSY PRESS OFFICER AND ONCE WITH POLITICAL OFFICER. SESSIONS WITH HIM ARE FRUSTRATING, FOR THEY END UP AS RAMBLING, EMOTIONAL MONOLOGUES FROM A MIND THAT CANNOT BE FOCUSED EVEN BY SPECIFIC QUESTIONS. PARASCHIV IS ALSO A LETTER WRITER, AND EMBASSY HAS IN ITS FILE, AMONG OTHER ITEMS, A LETTER ADDRESSED COLLECTIVELY TO: "JIMMI CARTER; THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON HELSINKI, SENATOR HENRIK GEKSAN; GEORGI MEANY; JOHN COMAN, PRESIDENT OF ROMANIAN WRITERS ASSOCIATION OF U.S. AND CANADA; THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE SOCIALIST INTER-NATIONAL, VIENNA; THE FRENCH COMMITTEE FOR THE DEFENSE CONFIDENTIAL

OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN ROMANIA; EUGEN IONESCU, MEMBER OF THE ACADEMIE FRACAISE; THE INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF PSYCHIATRISTS MEETING AT HONOLULU; THE NATIONAL COMMITTEES OF PSYCHIATRY OF THE U.S., UK, FRANCE, AND THE FRG: AND NOEL BERNARD, RFE (ROMANIAN SERVICE DIRECTOR)."

4. PARASCHIV, A TV REPAIRMAN AND ELECTRICIAN BY TRADE, JOINED RCP IN 1946 AND RESIGNED IN LATE 1968. ON TWO OCCASIONS (AUGUST, 1969 FOR FIVE DAYS AND DECEMBER, 1976 FOR THREE WEEKS) HE WAS CONFINED IN PSYCHIATRIC INSTITUTIONS. BETWEEN TIMES, HE APPARENTLY HAD FREQUENT TROUBLES AT WORK, WHERE HE SEEMDED TO HAVE HIS OWN IDEAS ABOUT WHAT

EE COULD OR COULD NOT BE REQUIRED TO DO IN LINE OF DUTY. HE WAS PICKED UP AGAIN BY POLICE DURING GOMA PERIOD LAST YEAR AND AGAIN TURNED OVER TO PSYCHIATRISTS, WHO PRESCRIBED OUT-PATIENT TREATMENT.

5. EMBASSY HAS VIEWED PARASCHIV AS ONE AMONG SEVERAL MILDLY PARANOIC INDIVIDUALS WITH HUGE CHIPS ON THEIR SHOLDERS WHO PERIODICALLY AVAIL THEMSELVES OF OUR OPEN-DOOR POLICY TO SPILL FORTH THEIR IRE AND FRUSTRATION. THESE PEOPLE

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WOULD PROBABLY BE MISFISTS IN ANY SOCIETY; THEY ARE DOUBLY SO HERE. WE REGARD THEM AS GADFLIES OR HARMLESS CRACKPOTS WHO, IN A WESTERN SOCIETY, WOULD HAVE NUMEROUS AVENUES FOR HARMLESSLY EXPRESSING THEMSELVES TO THEIR HEART'S CONTENT. THE ROMANIAN AUTHORITIES, WITH THEIR OWN TENDENCY TOWARD PARANOIA, DO NOT EASILY DISTINGUISH BETWEEN THE SERIOUS AGITATOR AND THE HARMLESS CRACKPOT. SOMEONE IN LATTER CATEGORY WHO, LIKE PARASCHIV, PROVES RESISTANT TO BOTH COERCION AND CAJOLING, BAFFLES THEM AS SOMEHOW NON COMPUS MENTIS. WE DO NOT PRETEND TO BE PSYCHIATRISTS, BUT IT SEEMS TO US THAT ROMANIAN PSYCHIATRISTS CORRECTLY DIAGNOSED PARASCHIV AS NEITHER INSANE NOR DANGEROUS AND DECLINED TO BOW TO POLICE PRESSURE TO CONFINE HIM. ALTERNATIVE WAS TO EXPORT HIM, AND HAVING ONCE UNBURDENED
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THEMSELVES OF ONE WHO THEY MUST CONSIDER AN INCORRIGIBLE NUISANCE, REFUSAL TO READMIT HIM IS NOT SURPRISING.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: LABOR UNIONS, PRESS CONFERENCES, ORGANIZATION & MANAGEMENT, ESTABLISHMENT OF OFFICES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 22 may 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978BUCHAR03462
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780215-0629
Format: TEL
From: BUCHAREST
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780535/aaaabcxb.tel
Line Count: 139
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 4ac78a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 PARIS 15850
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 apr 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2620475
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THE CASE OF VASILE PARASCHIV, ROMANIAN...
TAGS: ELAB, SHUM, FR, RO, (PARASCHIV, VASILE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4ac78a99-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
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Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014